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Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02
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ACDA-12 FAA-00 DOTE-00 /145 W
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R 251401Z APR 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8815
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY BERN
AMEMBASSY HELSINKI
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 04 GENEVA 06229

PARIS ALSO FOR OECD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, ECE, SENV
SUBJECT: ECE 33RD PLENARY: WRAP-UP

REF: (A) GENEVA 6024 (NOTAL; (B) GENEVA 6042 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: ECE 33RD SESSION ENDED SATURDAY EVENING,
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APRIL 22, AFTER LONG AND ARDUOUS NEGOTIATIONS ON OVERALL
OMNIBUS RESOLUTION DEALING WITH THE ECONOMIC COMMISSION
FOR EUROPE'S FUTURE WORK AND HANDLING OF USSR PROPOSALS
FOR HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS ON ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY, AND
TRANSPORT. AGREED RESOLUTION LAUNCHES PREPARATORY WORK
TOWARD POSSIBLE HIGH-LEVEL ECE MEETING ON ENVIRONMENT,
WITH 1979 SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED AS POSSIBILITY. EASTERN

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COUNTRIES PRESSED FOR DECISION IN PRINCIPLE TO HOLD SUCH A MEETING, AND MANY WESTERN COUNTRIES WOULD HAVE BEEN WILLING TO GO ALONG. HOWEVER EC-9 MAINTAINED FIRM OPPOSITION, AND FINAL RESOLUTION LEAVES MATTER FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AT 1979 ECE SESSION IN LIGHT OF PROGRESS ON PREPARATORY WORK. TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION AND LOW AND NON-WASTE TECHNOLOGY WERE PICKED AS PRIME TOPICS FOR ENVIRONMENT MEETING, BUT OTHERS NOT ENTIRELY RULED OUT. SESSION LEFT USSR PROPOSALS FOR ENERGY AND TRANSPORT CONFERENCES PRETTY MUCH WHERE THEY WERE AT OUTSET (GENERALLY OPPOSED) AND TURNED DOWN ECE SECRETARIAT'S PROPOSAL FOR A GROUP OF SENIOR ADVISERS ON ENERGY BECAUSE EAST REFUSED TO AGREE TO SUCH A BODY UNLESS IT WERE GIVEN TASK OF PREPARING FOR HIGH-LEVEL ENERGY MEETING, WHILE US AND MOST OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES ABSOLUTELY REJECTED SUCH A LINKAGE. U.S. DELEGATION PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN NEGOTIATING PROCESS BOTH IN FACILITATING ARRIVAL AT COMMON WESTERN POSITION BY BRIDGING GAP BETWEEN EC-9 AND NORDICS AND IN ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH EAST. DELEGATION CONSIDERS THAT IT ACHIEVED ALL MAJOR U.S. OBJECTIVES.

2. ENVIRONMENT: REFTEL A REPORTS ON DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS WITHIN WESTERN CAUCUS ON ENVIRONMENT PARAGRAPHS OF WESTERN OMNIBUS RESOLUTION WHICH WAS TABLED APRIL 19. WITH SOME RELATIVELY MINOR MODIFICATIONS, EAST FINALLY ACCEPTED WEST'S PROPOSED DRAFT AT 3:00 A.M.
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APRIL 22.

3. CONTACT GROUP, WITH FREQUENT BREAKS TO CONSULT WITH CAUCUSES, MET APRIL 20 AT DEPUTY LEVEL AND FROM MID-DAY APRIL 21 AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL TO REACH AGREEMENT. DURING NEGOTIATIONS EAST AS EXPECTED PUSHED FOR GREATER COMMITMENT ON THE PART OF THE WEST TO HOLDING OF AN ENVIRONMENTAL HIGH-LEVEL MEETING (HLM). ON THIS TOPIC U.S. PROPOSED PARAGRAPH "EXPRESSES ITS DETERMINATION TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BRING THE PREPARATORY WORK TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION SO THAT SUCH A MEETING COULD BE HELD IN 1979" AND WEST'S AGREEMENT TO DELETION OF WORDS "IF POSSIBLE BEFORE THE END OF 1979" IN ANOTHER PARAGRAPH PROVED SUFFICIENT COMMITMENT IN THE END FOR THE EAST. AT ONE STAGE OF NEGOTIATIONS EAST PROPOSED DELETION OF ALL REFERENCES TO SPECIFIC TOPICS IN RESOLUTION. WEST DID NOT TAKE THESE REQUESTS SERIOUSLY AND THEY WERE NOT PUSHED BY EAST. HOWEVER, SOVIET UNION IN SOUR GRAPES SPEECH AFTER THE ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION DID WARN THAT IT RESERVED THE RIGHT TO PROPOSE ADDITIONAL TOPICS DURING PREPARATORY WORK PERIOD. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF OPERATIVE PORTIONS OF ENVIRONMENT RESOLUTION:

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(1.) WELCOMES THE WORK OF THE SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS AND THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORTS E/ECE/936 AND E/ECE/937, RESPONSE TO PART II OF RESOLUTION 1(XXXII), CONCERNING A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ECE;
(2.) EXPRESSES CONFIDENCE THAT SATISFACTORY PREPARATORY WORK BY THE SENIOR ADVISERS ON THE TOPICS AS REFERRED TO IN PARAGRAPH BELOW AND IN PARTICULAR ON THE SUBJECTS OF LONG-RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION AND LOW- AND NON-WASTE TECHNOLOGY AND REUTILIZATION AND RECYCLING OF WASTES WOULD, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE CRITERIA SET OUT EARLIER

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FM USMISSION GENEVA
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INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
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IN THIS RESOLUTION, PERMIT THE PROMPT CONVENING OF A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ECE;

(3.) AGREES THAT FURTHER AND DETAILED WORK BY THE SENIOR ADVISERS IS NEEDED TO PREPARE IMPORTANT DECISIONS, INCLUDING THE POSSIBLE FORMS OF APPROPRIATE AGREEMENTS WHICH WOULD BE ADOPTED AT A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING;
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(4.) EXPRESSES ITS DETERMINATION TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BRING THE PREPARATORY WORK TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION SO THAT SUCH A MEETING COULD BE HELD IN 1979;

(5.) DECIDES TO REQUEST THE SENIOR ADVISERS - TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT E/ECE/936 AND THE VIEWS EXPRESSED AT THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION - TO PREPARE ON THE TOPICS LISTED BELOW, AND ON ANY OF THE OTHER TOPICS ENUMERATED IN PARAGRAPH 4 OF THE ABOVE REPORT ON WHICH THE SENIOR ADVISERS MAY AGREE, RECOMMENDATIONS AND CONCRETE PROPOSALS FOR IMPORTANT DECISIONS TO BE SUBMITTED TO A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING:
A. LONG-RANGE TRANSBOUNDARY AIR POLLUTION, INCLUDING:
(DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF WORK PROGRAM UNDER EACH TOPIC REMAINS AS IN GENEVA 6024).

B. LOW AND NON-WASTE TECHNOLOGY AND REUTILIZATION AND RECYCLING OF WASTES, INCLUDING:

(6.) FURTHER DECIDES TO REVIEW CONSTRUCTIVELY AT ITS THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION THE PREPARATORY WORK OF THE SENIOR ADVISERS, WITH A VIEW TO TAKING DECISIONS ON A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ECE ON THE PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT;

(7.) REQUESTS THE SENIOR ADVISERS TO MEET IN SPECIAL SESSIONS TO CARRY OUT THESE RESPONSIBILITIES AND ASKS THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO CONVENE A FIRST SUCH SPECIAL SESSION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, PREFERABLY IN JUNE 1978. THE SENIOR ADVISERS MAY CREATE SPECIAL GROUPS AS DEEMED APPROPRIATE;

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4. ENERGY; EAST REJECTED WEST'S PROPOSAL ON ENERGY IN OMNIBUS RESOLUTION (GENEVA 5836), WHICH WOULD HAVE

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CREATED NEW PERMANENT SUBSIDIARY BODY OF THE COMMISSION ON GENERAL ENERGY PROBLEMS AND IN A SEPARATE DRAFT DECISION GIVEN BODY MANDATE FOR ENHANCED WORK IN EAST/ WEST ENERGY INFORMATION EXCHANGE. EAST FURTHER REQUESTED DELEGTION OF REFERENCE TO IMPORTANCE OF INFORMATION EXCHANGE IN OMNIBUS RESOLUTION WHICH WOULD HAVE LEFT ONLY "EXCHANGE OF VIEWS" AS GUIDELINE TO COMMISSION. WEST REFUSED TO ACCEPT THIS DELETION. EAST INDICATED IT MIGHT HAVE ACCEPTED CREATION OF ENERGY BODY IF IT WERE LINKED TO HOLDING OF ENERGY HLM, BUT AS TIME WAS RUNNING OUT COMPROMISE WAS REACHED ON BASIS OF LEAVING IN EXISTING FORM COMMISSION'S ONGOING ENERGY PROGRAM AND AGREEING THAT COMMISSION WOULD "CONSIDER CONSTRUCTIVELY" AT ITS 34TH SESSION NEXT YEAR CREATION OF A NEW PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY BODY AND ITS MANDATE FOR FURTHER ENERGY COOPERATION WITHIN ECE. SIGNIFICANTLY, PHRASE "CONSIDER CONSTRUCTIVELY" IS THAT USED LAST YEAR TO DEFER DECISION ON ENVIRONMENTAL HIGH-LEVEL MEETING TO 33RD SESSION. EAST DID NOT PUSH HARD DURING MEETING FOR COMMISSION TO MOVE FORWARD ON THE HOLDING OF A HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON ENERGY (FRG AND UK BOTH PRESSED WITHIN EC-9 CAUCUS FOR POSITIVE STEP ON ENERGY MEETING, BUT WERE REBUFFED BY FRENCH, DUTCH, DANES AND OTHERS). ON TRANSPORT, EAST DID NOT PUSH AT ALL AND IN THE END SETTLED FOR ALMOST VERBATIM REPETITION OF SAME PARAGRAPHS AS IN LAST YEAR'S RESOLUTION WHICH CALLED FOR EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO CIRCULATE ANY VIEWS GOVERNMENTS MAY WISH TO COMMUNICATE ON ENERGY AND TRANSPORT MEETINGS. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF ENERGY PORTION OF OMNIBUS RESOLUTION:

HAVING FURTHER CONSIDERED THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY'S REPORT E/ECE/946 ON GENERAL ENERGY PROBLEMS IN THE ECE REGION,

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INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
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NOTING WITH INTEREST THE IDEA OF CREATING A NEW PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY BODY ENTITLED "SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON ENERGY",

(8.) DRAWS TO THE ATTENTION OF MEMBER GOVERNMENTS THE DISCUSSION AT THE THIRTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSAL FOR THE HOLDING OF CONFIDENTIAL

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ALL-EUROPEAN CONGRESSES IN THE FIELDS OF TRANSPORT AND ENERGY, AND RECALLS THE SUGGESTION IN DECISION B(XXXI) THAT MEMBER GOVERNMENTS SHOULD STUDY THE PROPOSAL THOROUGHLY IN THE LIGHT OF DISCUSSION IN THE COMMISSION AND THE RELEVANT PROVISIONS OF THE FINAL ACT OF THE CSCE.

(9.) ASKS THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO CIRCULATE SUCH VIEWS IN REGARD TO THE PROPOSAL AS MEMBER GOVERNMENTS MAY WISH TO COMMUNICATE TO HIM.

(10.) ENDORSES THE ONGOING ACTIVITIES IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE COMMISSION'S PROGRAM OF WORK ON GENERAL ENERGY PROBLEMS IN THE ECE REGION;

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(11.) ACKNOWLEDGES THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF AN EXTENSIVE EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION AND VIEWS BETWEEN MEMBER GOVERNMENTS ON ENERGY RESOURCES AND GOVERNMENTAL OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES IN THIS AREA, THUS PROVIDING A BASIS FOR CLOSER INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION ON ENERGY MATTERS;

(12.) EXPRESSES ITS WISH TO CONSIDER CONSTRUCTIVELY AT ITS THIRTY-FOURTH SESSION THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW PRINCIPAL SUBSIDIARY BODY ENTITLED "SENIOR ADVISERS TO ECE GOVERNMENTS ON ENERGY", AND ITS POSSIBLE MANDATE FOR FURTHER COOPERATION ON ENERGY WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE ECE.

5. AFTER FOREGOING PACKAGE AGREED TO AND CONTACT GROUP RESUMED AT DEPUTIES LEVEL TO CLEAN UP TEXT, EAST INSISTED THAT RESOLUTION SHOULD BEAR SAME TITLE AS AGENDA ITEM 5 (I.E., "THE WORK AND FUTURE ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMISSION AND THE PROPOSAL IN REGARD TO THE HOLDING OF ALL-EUROPEAN CONFIDENTIAL

CONGRESSES OR INTER-STATE CONFERENCES ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT, DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT, AND ENERGY") AND THAT PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPHS AS WELL AS OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS SHOULD BE SUB-DIVIDED AS WAS CASE IN LAST YEAR'S RESOLUTION. WESTERN CAUCUS REALIZED THAT IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR IT TO REFUSE TO USE EAST'S TITLE AS IT HAD ALREADY AGREED TO THAT TITLE ON OPENING DAY OF COMMISSION FOR AGENDA ITEM 5. HOWEVER, CAUCUS INSISTED THAT PREAMBULAR PARAGRAPHS REMAIN TOGETHER SO THAT ALL WOULD APPLY TO ALL OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS (WEST HAD DURING SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATION AGREED ON DIVISION OF OPERATIVE PARAGRAPHS). THIS QUESTION TIED UP NEGOTIATIONS UNTIL 6:00 A.M. SATURDAY, BUT MATTER WAS RESOLVED ON THIS BASIS IN SHORT CONTACT GROUP MEETING JUST BEFORE FINAL PLENARY SATURDAY EVENING, APRIL 23. AT AT FINAL PLENARY WEST HAD TO RESERVE ON TRANSLATION OF OMNIBUS FROM ORIGINAL ENGLISH INTO FRENCH AND RUSSIAN, SINCE BOTH TEXTS ERRONEOUSLY TRANSLATED KEY VERBS.

6. COMMISSION ALSO ADOPTED A NUMBER DF DECISIONS REGARDING ITS FUTURE WORK PROGRAM WHICH, INTER-ALIA: (1) CALL FOR ENHANCED COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF COAL GASIFICATION AND LIQUEFACTION INCLUDING STUDY OF A PROPOSED CENTER ON THIS SUBJECT AND A STUDY ON THE ROLE OF COAL IN LIGHT OF NEW TECHNOLOGY (GENEVA 5596); (2) APPROVES A SEMINAR ON THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE ECONOMIC EVOLUTION OF THE REGION (THIS WILL BE ECE'S CONTRIBUTION TO UN DECADE FOR WOMEN CONFERENCE); (3) ASKS SECRETARIAT

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TO CONTRIBUTE, IF INVITED, TO CSCE EXPERTS MEETING ON THE
MEDITERRANEAN IN VALLETTA (GENEVA 4977 AND 5560); (4)
APPROVES AN INNOCUOUS RESOLUTION ON UN CONFERENCE ON
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY FOR DEVELOPMENT; (5) CONTINUES
SECRETARIAT WORK ON INTRA-EUROPEAN MIGRATION (FRG HELD UP
WESTERN CAUCUS APPROVAL OF THIS RESOLUTION FOR SEVERAL
DAYS, BUT FINALLY ACCEPTED IT (SEE GENEVA 5371); AND
(6) EXTENDS TO PROGRAM OF WORK IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
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FIELD CONCENTRATION AND INTEGRATION EXERCISE OF TRYING
TO IMPROVE EFFICIENCY OF ITS ACTIVITIES BY FOCUSSING
EACH YEAR ON ONE OF THE MAJOR FIELDS OF ITS ACTIVITIES.
VANDEN HEUVEL

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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Status: NATIVE
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TAGS: ENRG, SENV, ECE
To: STATE
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